

15 October 1946

SUBJECT: Monthly Activity Report, September 1946  
TO: The Director  
FROM: Chief, Communications Division

I. CONTINENTAL USA

- A. Activities during the month of September were largely concerned with the liquidation of present SSU commitments and the arrangements for a transfer of functions to the equivalent unit within the Central Intelligence Group. Consistent with the imminent change, liaison channels are being established with all major CIG components.

A special report on the status of the Central-South American project has been submitted to the Director. Several factors have combined to slow our recruiting of Communications personnel, but it is believed that sufficient radio operator-technicians will be processed to complete the Communications portion of the overall commitment. No decision has been reached relative to the base facilities which must be established in Continental USA to handle the radio circuits necessitated by the project. When the base station question has been decided, plans, now in progress, for the actual operation of the network, will be finalized. On the basis of inventories prepared by the FBI, the Communications Division is procuring radio equipment which will replace that turned over by the FBI to our operators in Central and South America. Communications has received from the Chief, FBI, a schedule of the estimated dates for activation of the various stations.

- B. Personnel. Three additional departmental clerks have been recruited to facilitate the processing of personnel necessary to meet the large commitments in the Near East and in Central and South America. Recruitment is necessarily proceeding slowly both because of the time expended in processing forms and because of the difficulty which the Division is having in interesting skilled technicians at the salaries established for specific jobs. An attempt is being made to screen personnel in the field to avoid the high mortality in security investigations and in the introductory interviews held in Washington.

SECRET

25X1A

During the month of September, an additional three  
25X1A photographers and two radio operators were sent to  
[redacted] and one cryptographer to [redacted] Transportation  
for the additional cryptographer authorized for [redacted]  
is scheduled for mid-October and four cryptographers  
are now being trained for assignment to [redacted] At the  
request of FEE, the Communications Division recruited  
25X1A an enlisted man who will serve with the newly-organized  
[redacted]; he will be trained in all aspects of  
Communications procedures and is due to depart about  
15 November.

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Attached, as Inclosure 1, is the Monthly Strength Report,  
showing total civilian and military personnel assigned  
to the Communications Division as of 30 September 1946.

- C. Operations. An additional officer has been assigned to  
Operations. He is assisting with the planning of the  
Near East and South America nets and with the allocation  
of personnel and equipment for the activation of those  
nets.

25X1A

- D. Signal Security Control. Direct cipher communications  
have been successfully established with [redacted]  
[redacted] during the past month. In  
addition, changes in procedure have been initiated with  
[redacted] In coop[redacted] 25X1A with State Department,  
the new cable payment plan, [redacted] has been activated for  
all outgoing Washington traffic to SSU stations using  
State cover for their communications, and incoming traffic  
from eleven out of fifteen stations in the field is also  
covered.

25X1A

25X1A

The Cipher Training School has trained ten Communications  
personnel, two radio operators, and thirteen special  
Desk personnel who will perform Communications duties in  
semi-overt and overt areas.

- E. Message Center. In mid-September 25X1A some delay in the  
reception and transmission of [redacted] traffic was  
experienced due to the typhoon which damaged Navy  
facilities 25X1A, a main relay point for all our traffic  
to and from [redacted] Normal service has now been restored.

Total traffic handled by the Washington Message Center  
increased from a total of 244,988 groups during the month  
of August to 291,717 groups for the month of September.  
This represents an increase of twenty per cent in total  
volume. Attached, as Inclosure 2, is a chart showing  
total traffic handled for the period 1-30 September.

- F. Signal Procurement Control. All Navy personnel have been withdrawn from the Communications Warehouse, [REDACTED] and there is no immediate prospect of replacement. Activity at the Warehouse is steadily increasing due to the activation of projects requiring communications equipment.
- G. Research and Engineering. A Communications engineer is now on temporary duty in [REDACTED] providing technical assistance requested by [REDACTED] 25X1A

II. EUROPEAN AREA.

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[REDACTED] Chief of Staff, USFET, has given official sanction for the establishment of an SSU Communications Center in the United States [REDACTED] Action has been initiated to secure a definite site to house the new Communications unit. The Communications Officer and the Radio Officer [REDACTED] Europe have conducted extensive surveys of proper [REDACTED] including the Signal Corps School at [REDACTED] weather station [REDACTED] north of [REDACTED] and a former [REDACTED] installation at [REDACTED] At this date, a final choice has not been made; thus far the only suitable sites have been unavailable and those which are available are not suited to our present requirements.

To cope with any possible emergency before the completion of the Communications Center [REDACTED] mentioned above, a radio station has been established at [REDACTED] The emergency station consists of one transmitter, two receivers, a shop for testing and repairing equipment, and a packing room.

25X1A

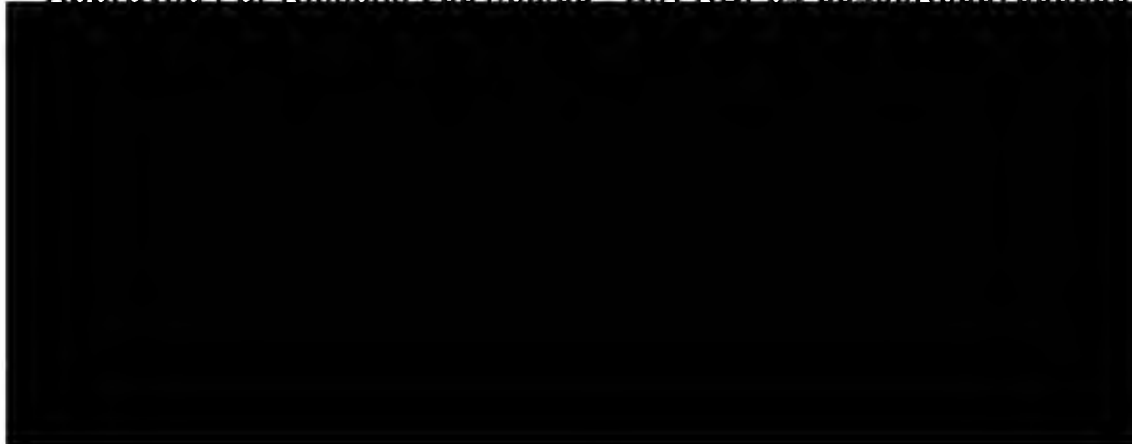
Communications with [REDACTED] has been successfully opened and arrangements have been completed to install TWX stations in [REDACTED] 25X1A 25X1A

Two enlisted men in the [REDACTED] Message Center are being civilianized on or about 15 October. Replacements have been requested for an additional EM and for two civilians. The civilian replacements have been recruited and are now in training in Washington.

✓ Courses in radio operation and cryptographic work are being organized as a part of the [REDACTED] all agent training program which is scheduled to begin in [REDACTED] on or about 1 November. Communications training is being coordinated with Washington.

25X1A

SECRET



III. NEAR EAST

No outstanding change. During September one radio operator, a Diesel Engineer, 25X1A Acting Chief of the Near East network arrived in [REDACTED]. An additional engineer and operator will leave in early October.

IV. FAR EAST.

The changeover from Army 25X1A Navy facilities for traffic between Washington and [REDACTED] was accomplished without incident or delay in communications. Traffic delays were noted in mid-September as a result of the storm which damaged relay facilities 25X1A Guam. There have been no changes in the radio net in [REDACTED] during the past month. 25X1A

During August and September, Communications, [REDACTED] lost three 25X1A and three civilians but gained one officer (Captain [REDACTED] Communications Officer), and nine civilian radio operator-technicians and cryptographic clerks. In addition to the personnel which arrived from USA, four ex-marines were recruited in the theater and, when security has been received, they will be assigned where needed as radio operators. The acute shortage of radio technicians is being temporarily met by a plan whereby those stations not adequately staffed at present receive periodic visits of technicians from headquarters.

25X1A



ns. Division

Inclosures - 2

- 1 - Monthly Strength Report
- 2 - Traffic chart

MONTHLY STRENGTH REPORT

AS OF 30 SEPTEMBER

	<u>Military</u>	<u>Civilian</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total August</u>
Continental U. S.	13	84	97	99
Pending Shipment O/S	1	5	6	9
Europe	6	27	33	31
NETO	2	6	8	6
IB-SEAC	-	2	2	2
25X1A	6	39	45	44
Total	28	163	191	191

MESSAGE CENTER WASHINGTON

SUMMARY OF VOLUME OF TRAFFIC

SEPTEMBER 1946

	INWARD		OUTWARD		TOTAL	
	MSGS	GRPS	MSGS	GRPS	MSGS	GRPS
SSU Coded Traffic Relayed Through Washington	803	105,817	890	99,987	1,693	205,804
SSU Coded Traffic Originating In or Destined for Washington	269	30,803	409	55,110	678	85,913
Plain Text Domestic Telegrams (Wire Room)	20	706	77	1,484	97	2,190